Nation

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The contest runs from October 3, 2014, through December 5, 2014, and is open to members of the Cree nation living in one of the Native communities of Eeyou Istchee who are at least 18 years of age. Limit of one entry per person per day. The winner will be announced at 8:00 a.m. on December 10, 2014, during the Hydlo and Friends radio show on JBCCS.

Quebec takes action

by Will Nicholls

While the federal government is ignoring life-and-death issues such as tragedy of murdered and missing women, Quebec is taking action. The province will unveil an anti-bullying campaign and plan at the end of November. The plan will look at ways to stop the abuse and bullying of Aboriginal peoples.

Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard said there are many different types of bullying but, he observed, "The Aboriginal reality is so specific that it deserves to be treated separately."

An Innu woman who had to leave school because of bullying by classmates hit home for the premier. Because she had an accent when she spoke French her classmates made her life a living hell.

The Quebec Native Women's Association agrees with the premier and said it was a double whammy for Aboriginal women because they were women and Aboriginal. Said QNWA President Viviane Michel: "We're confronted with racism every day. It weighs on you because you live it constantly: hateful glances, racist insults, or the prejudices of people that are anchored on our identity, on us."

She added that a public awareness campaign should be a priority. "People need to understand where we come from, who we are and why we became this way," Michel said.

In 2012, the National Assembly passed the Act to prevent and stop bullying in schools. It provides for "prevention measures to put an end to all forms of bullying and violence, in particular those motivated by racism or homophobia or targeting sexual orientation, sexual identity, a handicap or a physical characteristic."

Only two large cities in Canada have fines for bullying (race related or not). They are Regina, Saskatchewan, and Edmonton, Alberta. Edmonton led the way with minimum fines of $250. Another Alberta town, Rocky Mountain House, has a $1,000 fine for a second offence. The idea is to prevent individuals from continuing to engage in bullying and escalating in their behaviours (e.g., assault, gang violence and harassment) by making bullying a criminal offence. This is great because bullying has been shown in research studies to be a stepping-stone to more severe behaviours.

It remains to be seen how effective these legal efforts will be are. Police officers say that few tickets have been issued so far, because once people are aware of the cost and consequences of bullying, they generally stop doing it.

There are other benefits. It addresses harmful behaviours not covered under the Criminal Code, such as gossiping or other forms of bullying that cause a targeted individual to feel harassed or bothered. In this way it supports the Criminal Code and the minimum level of evidence required allows police to intervene in a variety of bullying situations.

As we can see it should not just be the province dealing with bullying, racist or not, but local and regional forms of government as well. In the meantime, hats off to Quebec for moving ahead on this issue and hopefully others will follow their lead.

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Igloofest

photo by:
Miguel Legault

Save the bearded moose from cars and radioactivity

by Joshua Iserhoff

I live in fear of hitting a moose with my chic Honda Crosstour. I don't know how many times I've seen Facebook pictures of wrecked vehicles from moose hit-and-runs.

Several weeks ago, my father found an injured moose near the site of yet another encounter with a car. The car was severely damaged but the moose was in relatively decent shape. The animal suffered internal bleeding but my dad and his trapper friend were able to salvage the whole thing! The family hosted a feast for a beloved birthday and no one knew the blessed meat was roadkill.

Sounds funny but the carnivores sure did enjoy the fresh moose hit by who knows! So be careful out there, don't let your heavy foot be too heavy. Those moose can really put a dent in your shiny new SUV, and especially in your designer wallet.

I am blessed to travel to all communities, to talk with our people and hear their concerns, ideas, extramarital affairs, etc.... One thing I must bring up again is that we have this threat of uranium mining trying to cross our borders, even when we as Cree people have voiced our opposition.

What would happen if one day the government allows such mining to go ahead? The sheer devastation that it would bring to the land is unthinkable. And how it would affect our precious animals that our ancestors have for centuries respected and hunted? My friend Melissa B. Saganash (Director of Cree-Quebec Relations) and I have this mandate to bring a message that the Cree of Eeyou Istchee have spoken and that we stand against uranium.

The message is clear and we had Cree youth in Germany who were protesting and attracting international attention to stop uranium in Quebec! I am very proud of Matthew Iserhoff and Jamie Moses for being our voices on the international scene. We will continue to fight and I urge you, dear *Nation* readers, to join us in expressing our deep opposition to uranium mining on Twitter and Facebook. Your tweets/posts will make a difference.

By the time this hits the stands, I think most of the men (except me) will have had quite the bushy hairdo or some will probably extend their moose break. If the man upstairs wants to bless me with a few days off, I may let my face spend time in the bush. Most of the time I get a beard within minutes. I kid you not!

Anyhow, guys, if you're in Montreal and looking for a barber you have try Notorious Barbershop on Notre Dame Street West. Leo is your man. His shop is small, cool and they even trim beards and use old-fashioned shaving methods. Not with an axe, but you won't be disappointed – trust me on this. Who knew – Josh in barbershop!

Hey, Bradley! You're a step ahead with your famous beard ;)

Let's not contaminate our moose and the wildlife, but let's enjoy our life in the wild while sporting fantastic beards. I think my friend LeslieAnn Chiskamish-Coonishish agrees with me that beards are pure sexiness. I've just decided to not shave for the next five minutes it will take mine to bloom.

Please check out www.standagainsturanium.com

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Stop the logging

Barrier Lake residents are leading a spirited battle for the forest

By Joel Barde

First Nations families in the Laurentian Mountains are fighting in court to stop logging in Parc La Verendrye.

Area resident Tina Nottaway is seeking an injunction to stop multinational forestry giant Louisiana Pacific from tearing up her backyard.

"The cutting is happening 24 hours a day," she told *the Nation*. "I see the signs it everywhere, whenever I go for a walk."

For Nottaway, the damage extends beyond the blight of seeing large patches of dark soil and broken roots where old-growth forests once stood.

Her family travels between three handmade log cabins in the area. There is no electricity. They literally live off the land, through hunting and gathering plants and medicines.

Nottaway said the logging is making it increasingly difficult to find traditional medicines that she said have tremendous healing powers.

When her uncle developed polio, it was traditional medicine – not Western medicine – that saved his life, she said.

"My grandmother took her son to the hospital. And the doctors told her to take him home and essentially watch him die. So she took him into the bush, and put him into a tub with traditional medicines. For three days and three nights. It saved his life."

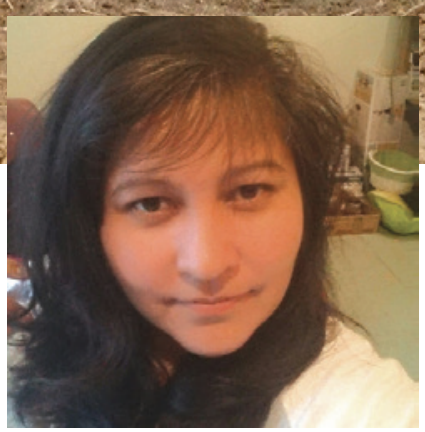
Nottaway sees passing on the traditional knowledge she has learned from living in the bush as an important part of her life's mission.

She is in the final stages of organizing a major gathering for First Nations children. About 120 children will spend a long weekend in La Verendrye, where they will be immersed in traditional Algonquin culture.

For some, it will be an introduction to hunting, fishing and storytelling. Nottaway, who speaks Algonquin, will also pass on language skills.

"A lot of our kids are losing their language. It's important we keep our language. It's part of who we are. It's part of our tradition and culture."

One of the interesting aspects of the Nottaway and the others' lawsuits is how they are being put forth by families – rather than by their band councils.



Tina Nottaway

Nottaway is a member of the Algonquin of Barrier Lake First Nation Band. She acknowledges that the band may support her desire to keep logging away from traditional First Nations territory. But she fears they do not have the necessary determination to stop the logging.

For Nottaway, keeping the land free of logging goes beyond medicine, even food. Healthy forests are critical to her spiritual life.

"When I pray, it's not inside a building. I go out in the woods and do my prayers. I don't go in church. When you go out in the forest you're more connected to everything around you. That's important to me."

Remembrance in the rain

Montreal vigil for missing and murdered Indigenous women builds momentum

By Jesse Staniforth

Despite steady rain, hundreds of people showed up to Montreal's Parc Émilie-Gamelin October 4 for the march that culminated in this year's Montreal Vigil for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

"We could have been double if it was a beautiful day," said Idle No More organizer Melissa Mollen-Dupuis. "But there are hundreds of people here. It's an umbrella revolution!"

Those who have attended the protest for years couldn't help but notice the change, not just in numbers but in mood: last year's speeches often bordered on despair at the unwillingness of Prime Minister Stephen Harper to take the issue seriously, call an inquiry and implement a national action plan. Harper's position hasn't changed in the last year, but a lot of other people's opinions have, and the issue is bigger than ever. At this year's vigil, there was the distinct sensation that something is about to change.

"Social media is really helping," said Kanehsatà:ke Kanien'keha:ka Turtle Clan activist Ellen Gabriel. "There are a lot of young people becoming aware, learning about the issues, and a lot of Indigenous women are becoming active and making their non-Indigenous friends aware. Plus there's been a lot of work by activists at the UN to condemn Canada and to urge them to have a national plan of action and to have an inquiry. All the various levels are putting pressure on Harper's government."

This year's vigil was supported by Amnesty International, the Quebec Women's Federation and a coalition for Indigenous rights supported by Quebec unions and francophone organizations.

"This year we thought was a good year to try to get a larger francophone audience attending, because it's been mostly an anglophone event for the past eight years," said Quebec Native Women Justice Coordinator Alana Boileau. "We thought, how can Quebec Native Women work with Missing Justice to try to attract more French-speaking people to the event, and for the issue to get more clout in French media? We also collaborated with Amnesty International to figure out how to publicize this in different francophone circles."

Participation from Amnesty has helped the issue to go global, noted Gabriel.

Provincial governments are increasing pressure on Ottawa. Days before the vigil, Quebec's National Assembly passed a unanimous motion to support demands for a national inquiry.

"The Quebec government is behind the project, 100%," Boileau said. "It feels like everyone except Stephen Harper wants a national inquiry. Everyone

asks me why he's refusing. My cynical answer to that is I bet he'll call one – right before the elections that are coming up."

Mollen-Dupuis pointed to the rage that greeted Harper's statement that the massacre of Native women in Canada should not be viewed as "a sociological phenomenon."

"That was just another way of seeing how he's totally ignoring the question and, of course, ignoring the calls for public inquiry," Mollen-Dupuis said. She noted that public pressure has forced Harper's government to back down enough that Minister for the Status of Women Kellie Leitch will attend a roundtable discussion on the issue, possibly next month.

"We want to have an inquiry, to have a report, to have something legally binding to Canada, to force it to [respond to] the question so we can have programs implemented," said Mollen-Dupuis.

"This violence has really deep roots. Unless things start changing in the schools and they start teaching the kids and educating the politicians and policy makers, there's not going to be the kind of

"IT FEELS LIKE EVERYONE EXCEPT STEPHEN HARPER WANTS A NATIONAL INQUIRY."

Gabriel said the entire issue will need more than just government programs. The persistent targeting of Indigenous women, she underlined, is an expression of colonialist values that have persisted for centuries.

change that's really needed at the core. Just like climate change – we need not only a system change, but also an attitude change. The Creator gave us a mind to choose what we want to do, but racism is a sickness of the mind."

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• Shipping is at participant's expense
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COMMUNITY
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Crees launch anti-uranium campaign

The Cree Nation Government reaffirmed its opposition to uranium development with the launch of #standagainsturanium October 7. The digital campaign is anchored by a website, www.standagainsturanium.com.

"This is another step in our campaign to ensure that our voices are heard and that our lands are protected," said Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come in a release. "Uranium development is incompatible with Cree values, culture and way of life."

The Grand Council says the aim of the website is to inform Crees and the Quebec population in general on the risks that are associated with uranium mining. The hashtag #standagainsturanium has been making its way through the twittersphere since the launch.

The controversy surrounding uranium reached a head in Quebec over the past year. Strateco, the mining company trying to exploit uranium deposits north of Mistissini, recently closed its operations in Eeyou Istchee. The Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) is now conducting hearings on the future of the uranium industry in Quebec.

Conflict over moose organs

The Abitibi-Témiscamingue health agency recommended earlier this month that people refrain from eating moose organs, including the kidneys

and liver. They claim that organ samples collected last fall had abnormally high cadmium content. Cadmium is a

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toxic metal that can accumulate in herbivorous animals.

A press release from the Abitibi-Témiscamingue health agency admitted that the group did not procure enough organ samples to draw any definitive conclusions, but still considered their findings worrisome.

However, a recent study by the Cree Health Board indicates that increased cadmium in humans has very little to do with consuming moose meat, and more to do with smoking cigarettes.

The 2014 study concluded that among the 1429 participants, "smokers had significantly higher levels of blood cadmium than non-smokers, and that traditional food consumption was not a good predictor of cadmium exposure."

The Cree Health Board continues to encourage the consumption of traditional foods.

Four decades celebrated in photos

To celebrate its 40th anniversary, the Val-d'Or Native Friendship Centre launched a photo exhibit September 27 called Because Urbanity is also Anicinabe.

According to Executive Director Edith Cloutier, the centre became an important refuge at a time when the Cree were working on the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement and the formation of the Anishnabe Tribal Council.

"This was a time of the political affirmation of our rights and Val-d'Or just became the city where people would meet for some of these political activities," said Cloutier.

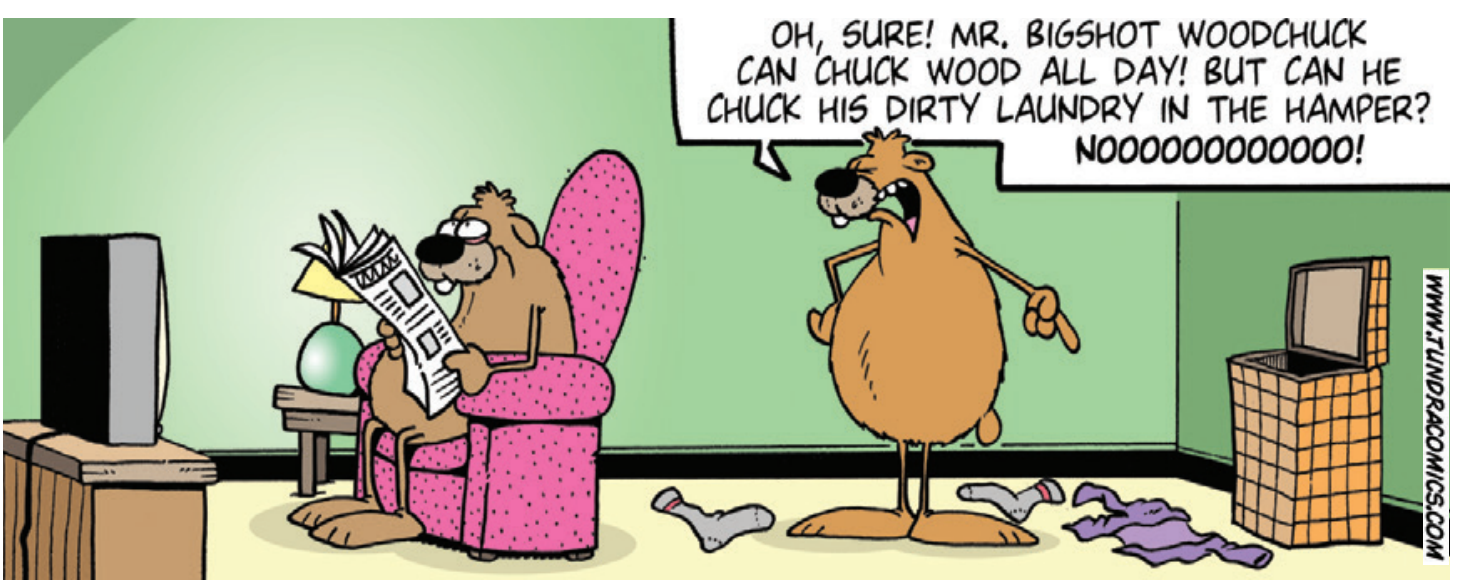
While celebration events were kicked off with the city's Gabriel Commanda Anti-Racism March in the spring, this exhibition was launched in conjunction with the provincial Les Journees de la Culture, and it will remain on display for the next two years at Le Centre Culturel de Val-d'Or.

The exhibit explores Aboriginal urban reality. It presents photography under four themes: urban territory, social exclusion, knowledge transmission and hope.

According to Cloutier, part of this exhibition is comprised of photos taken by homeless Aboriginals who were given cameras and asked to record their own realities on the streets. Portraits were also taken of these photographers.

The show also features video footage and interviews with Val-d'Or's homeless by Roger Orr during his stay at the centre last year as well as contributions from other Native community members in Val-d'Or.

For more info: www.expovd.ca


OH, SURE! MR. BIGSHOT WOODCHUCK CAN CHUCK WOOD ALL DAY! BUT CAN HE CHUCK HIS DIRTY LAUNDRY IN THE HAMPER? NOOOOOOOOOOO!
WWW.TUNDRACOMICS.COM

Cool times for cool weather

The Nation's annual Fall/Winter tourism guide

by Amy German

The Phénomena Festival is a small, exciting and very inspiring event that goes down in Montreal's Mile End district photo by Elise Apap

As the first snow has already begun to fall and the winter clothes pulled out of storage, escaping what is bound to be a long and cold winter is already on the minds of many.

Absconding to somewhere exotic and lovely is one of the best ways to beat the cold weather blues, but Florida, the Caribbean and Hawaii can be a costly undertaking for a large family.

If you happen to be down south for business or you want to enjoy some arts and culture while on a shopping trip, read on. Quebec's winters have made us hardy, we are experts at spicing it up both inside and out.

Bust out those calendars. The 2014-2015 winter season has numerous events, parties, family festivals, holiday celebrations and wonderful ways to deal with the cold months.

Read on for events that will brighten up those long months of snow and ice and to find the ticket to beating the winter blues.

Montreal Burlesque Festival

If you are looking for some adult fun while down in the south, Montreal's Burlesque Festival is much more than just a song and dance with pasties.

Featuring 20 different burlesque and cabaret performances October 16-18, this vintage entertainment has enjoyed a renaissance in the last decade, long after its heyday in the 1940s and 50s. Sexy, smart and a whole lot of theatrical fun, this fest features intimate club performances geared at provoking the senses.

www.montrealburlesquefestival.ca

Phénomena Festival

If you are looking for an art experience on the wild side, the Phénomena Festival is a small, exciting and inspiring event that goes down in Montreal's Mile End district October 17-24.

This festival's goal is to bring together acts and artists who are simply unclassifiable. Put on by people who are both undisciplined and unclassifiable, this event boasts 110 artists and nearly 40 performances in multiple locations.

This is an effervescent look at the avant-garde that brings in cutting-edge artists from around the world.

www.festivalphenomena.com

Music for Lamps perform at Phénomena Festival

International Tourism and Travel Show

If you've always wanted to plan a major trip abroad but just weren't sure where to start, the International Tourism and Travel Show at Place Bonaventure October 24-26 will whet your appetite for adventures abroad without straying beyond provincial borders.

This year more than 100 countries will be represented through their tourism offices, tour operators or travel agents.

Putting their best feet forward to potential tourists, this event features a wide variety of presentations of folk dances, music, costumes, arts and crafts, cinema and other cultural showcases.

www.salontourismevoyages.com

Biennale de Montréal

The Biennale de Montréal is a biannual event that features a series of contemporary art exhibitions that celebrate this year's theme: "Looking Forward."

Put on October 22-January 4 by an independent non-profit organization in collaboration with Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (MAC), this event features a series of art exhibits following the theme of future concepts and where that may take us.

www.bnlmtl2014.org/

La Braderie de Mode

For the trendsetters and fashion-minded, La Braderie de Mode is an opportunity to scoop up locally designed garb October 23-26.

Held at the historic and glamorous Marche Bonsecour in the Old Port of Montreal, this semi-annual event is now in its 20th year and features products from around 100 Quebec designers, including exclusive women's and men's ready to wear, children's fashions, coats, sportswear, leather, fur, shoes, bathing suits and lingerie, casual wear, and accessories.

It's an ideal event to get your hands on something that is bound to turn heads or get a jump on your holiday shopping.

www.braderiedemodequebecoise.com

Montreal ESP Psychic Expo

If you've ever wanted to have your palm read, get your astrological chart done or explore the world of crystal healing, the Montreal ESP Psychic Expo offers all of this and more.

At Place Bonaventure October 31-November 2, the event may just be the way to celebrate a wonderful Halloween in the city by learning more about the paranormal through its many lectures and events.

514-366-0549

Cinemania

For those who enjoy French cinema, Cinemania offers a festival experience to both aficionados and novices looking to enjoy new and classic French films with English subtitles.

Running November 6-16 in downtown Montreal's historic and newly renovated Imperial Theatre, this is a wonderful little film festival to take in just as the weather turns cold and rainy. And, as the films have been diligently selected by a professional team of programmers, what is screened is generally known to wow.

www.festivalcinemania.com

La Grande Dégustation de Montréal

Now in its fourth edition, La Grande Dégustation de Montréal, or what used to be known as the Wine and Spirits show, is an ideal spot to learn

La Grande Dégustation de Montréal,

The Montreal International Dog Show is a great place for dog lovers!

about and stock up on incredible international alcoholic beverage products that are not normally available at the local liquor stores.

There is a specialized tasting event put on by the SAQ and the l'Association québécoise des agences de vins, bières et spiritueux (AQAVBS). Presenters from around the world offer samples of wines, beers, spirits and liquors. For those looking to taste as many products as possible, there are numerous receptacles on hand to expel the taste and move on to the next… though not everyone chooses to do so.

At Place Bonaventure November 7-8, this year's themes include a special exploration and celebration of South African wines as well as Chenin Blanc and Whiskeys of the World.

www.lagrandedegustation.com

Weekend de toute beauté

If you want glamour, fashion, cosmetics and all-out pampering, there is no better event to than the Weekend de toute beauté at Palais de Congrès November 7-9.

This shopping experience features 35,000 square feet of major beauty care labels, make-up artists, hairstylists, beauty advisors, skincare professionals, perfumes, spa products, major fashion labels, designers, artisans, jewelers and stylists. Visitors can also pop by the champagne bar or have a photo session done. It's the perfect event to get your glam on for the holidays or find a new look.

https://www.detoutebeaute.ca

Montreal International Dog Show

If you want to learn more about specialized dog breeds, visit with prize-winning pooches, take in three Canadian Kennel Club Licensed Conformation Dog Shows or specialty shows for Great Danes, Dobermans, Collies and Golden Retrievers, the Montreal International Dog Show is your ideal event.

Running November 7-9 at Place Bonaventure, the show offers a chance for a meet-and-greet with breeders as well as services, supplies, crafts and gifts for dogs and their owners.

www.dess.ca

Annual Gem and Mineral Show

Montreal's 55th Annual Gem and Mineral Show at Place Bonaventure November 7-9is the jewellery artisan's opportunity to purchase semi-precious gems, jewellery, sculptures, pearls, beads, fossils, tools and minerals.

More than 100 local and out-of-province dealers offer products from

Montreal's 55th Annual Gem and Mineral Show

mines around the world, including Afghanistan, Africa, Brazil and North America.

Featuring sculptures made from exotic materials such as agate, serpentine, amazonite, rose quartz and jasper, this show is an excellent learning and shopping experience.

www.montrealgemmineralclub.ca

International Documentary Festival

For those who enjoy reality-based cinema, the Montreal International Documentary Festival (Rencontres internationales du documentaire de Montréal) highlights the year's best documentaries from Canada and beyond.

Running November 12-23, this multi-lingual and multi-cultural event is a feast for serious and curious film lovers.

www.ridm.qc.ca

M for Montreal

Montreal is seldom devoid of mega musical events, and M for Montreal keeps bodies moving and grooving November 19-22. With four days of shows and showcases by emerging acts on the Montreal scene, this festival brings out professionals and music lovers who want to know the newest trends. Also features panels, conferences and creative meetings.

This year's lineup includes Les Sins, Nils Frahm, Dawn of Midi, Gypsy Kumbia Orchestra with Lemon Bucket Orkestra, Thee Oh Sees, Gazelle Twin, Elephant Stone and Teenanger.

www.mformontreal.com

Salon du Livre de Montréal

The five-day Salon du Livre de Montréal showcases French-language literature from Quebec and the world at Place Bonaventure November 19-24.

This unique and ultimately intimate expo gives readers the chance to meet some of their favourites in person as well as discover new books and authors. It also features round-table discussions, debates and public readings.

www.salondulivredemontreal.com

Image + Nation Festival

A celebration of pride and innovation in cinema, Image + Nation is Montreal's annual Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) film festival takes place November 20-30.

Celebrating LGBT cinema from around the world, at almost 30, this is the oldest festival of its kind in Canada and every year it brings ground-breaking films to the big screen to the delight of local and visiting audiences.

www.image-nation.org/

Nutcracker Market

A special shopping event that is guaranteed to get patrons into the holiday spirit, Montreal's festive Nutcracker Market lets you shop for gifts in a magical wonderland.

Running November 27-December 7 on the Merchant Level of Palais de Congrès, merchants sell exclusive jewellery, garments, accessories, toys, chocolates, locally crafted alcoholic beverages, crafts, pottery and crockery.

Decorated in the theme of the Nutcracker Ballet, the market also celebrates the return of The Nutcracker to Place des Arts, where it is performed by Les Grands Ballets Canadiens every year.

As an added bonus, 10% of the proceeds from every purchase made at the market goes to the Nutcracker Fund for Children. This fund allows children from underprivileged neighbourhoods to attend educational workshops and a performance of the ballet, as well as towards the production costs of The Nutcracker.

www.marchecassenoisette.com

Salon des Métiers d'Art de Montréal

If you are looking for exclusively artisanal products to put under the tree this season, the Salon des Métiers d'Art de Montréal is the place to find some of the most incredible handcrafted creations the province has to offer.

One of the most important professional craft expositions in Canada, nothing gets onto the showroom floor unless it has been vetted by the Quebec Craft Council meaning that each item is of the highest quality.

At Place Bonaventure December 5-21, this spectacular event offers incredible and professional crafts that could be the perfect present for the person who has everything.

www.metiersdart.ca/en

Old Montreal Extravaganza

If you are planning on being in Montreal during the holiday season, The Old Montreal Extravaganza offers several days of incredible celebrations and events geared at making the season magical and memorable December 15-January 5.

Featuring a variety of indoor and outdoor entertainment at 20 different venues, this festival features a magical Christmas village, festive skating on a musical rink in front of Marché Bonsecours, incredible fireworks, loads of traditional Quebecois folk music and the New Year's Eve Grand Bal on Place Jacques-Cartier.

oldmontrealextravaganza.info/

The Let's Get Married Bridal Wedding Show

For all of those lucky gals who received a special sparkler from a holiday engagement proposal and are now looking to plan a wedding, The Let's Get Married Bridal Wedding Show is a great way to begin your planning experience and get wedding ideas.

Running January 10-11 at Place Bonaventure, this event features one-stop shopping for brides and grooms and is the perfect place to find a wedding planner, venue, look at prospective wedding registry items, see bridal fashion runway shows that feature the latest in wedding attire and lots more. Whether you are getting married at home or abroad, this event may just be the thing to give you great ideas for your future together.

www.marionsnous.ca

The Auto Show

If you love cars or are looking to buy a new one or just want to see what is hot for 2015, Montreal's Auto Show is the ultimate event to check out what the auto industry has to offer in one magnificent show.

At the Palais de Congrès January 16-25, this event features floor after floor of vehicles from all the big auto producers. Plus the 2015 event also features more than 40 modified cars and many unveilings.

www.salon-auto.com

Igloofest

A unique way to party in the cold, this is one of Montreal's more innovative ways to chase away the winter blues and get your blood pumping under the night sky. Igloofest puts on one dance party after another in the Quays of the Old Port.

Running Thursday to Saturday nights January 16- February 8, the folks behind Piknic Electronik showcase the city's top DJs and import some of the hottest from around the world for a special kind of outdoor

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Igloofest, photos by Miguel Legault

dance event that could only really happen in Montreal.

Attracting thousands of snowsuit-clad partygoers, this event creates an atmospheric setting with mesmerizing light shows, majestic ice sculptures and igloos that patrons can hang out in and cozy spots to warm up if the need arises. But really, the collective body heat makes for a fairly comfortable dancing experience, even in -20 weather.

www.igloofest.ca

Salon de l'Amour et de la Séduction

For those looking to keep warm this winter by generating body heat in the bedroom, there is no better place to look for new ways to spice it up than the Salon de l'Amour et de la Séduction.

Running January 16-18 at Place Bonaventure, this very sexy and adults-only consumer show features seminars, stage shows, celebrities, erotic art, shopping and kink for singles, couples and groups looking to spice up their lives. It's the perfect opportunity to shop for adult products and learn from experts in the area of love and sex.

www.montreal.amouretseduction.com/en/

Fête des neiges

For something that truly celebrates the best of winter and all of the creative and crazy things imaginable that can be done with snow, the Fête des neiges is about family fun during the day and more fun for the bigger kids at night. Running weekends on Île Jean Drapeau January 17-February 8, this snow-themed festival features ziplines, tube sliding, dogsled tours, skating, shows and music.

www.parcjeandrapeau.com/en/fete-des-neiges-de-montreal/

National Outfitters Hunting & Fishing Expo

If you are on the market for an outfitting camp getaway outside of James Bay or are looking to present an outfitting operation to potential visitors, there is no place better to go than the 2015 Montreal National Outfitters Hunting & Fishing Expo at Palais de Congrès January 29-February 1.

It's Montreal's biggest outfitting event and the best place to find a special spot for a hunting getaway for you and your fellow hunters.

www.pourvoirie.net

Le Salon de la Mariée

For the bride and groom looking to save money and time, the Sheldon Kagan International Le Salon de la Mariée at Palais de Congrès January 31- February 1 offers wedding professionals, honeymoon options and home preparation ideas.

Featuring fabulous fashion shows, appointments with presenters, sample goods, prize contests and lots more, this is a great event to learn all about wedding planning.

www.lesalondelamariee.com

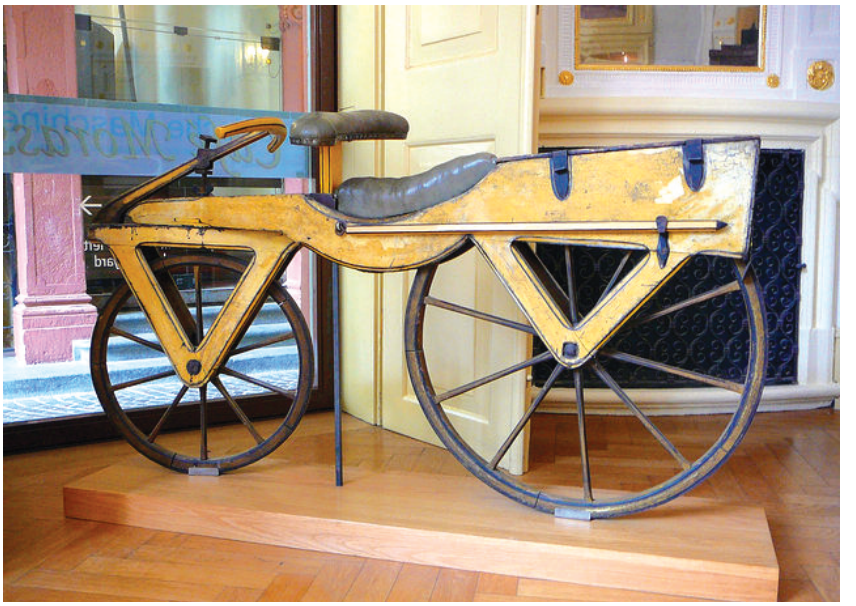
Boat and Water Sports Show

February 5-8 marks the return of the Montreal Boat and Water Sports Show to Place Bonaventure and it promises to serve up a wet and wild time for all.

Featuring the latest in boats and maritime technology, the event is put on by the Quebec Maritime Association with the mandate of promoting the growth of boating in the province. The goal of the event is not only to promote boating and water sports but also raise awareness about boating safety and develop nautical tourism in Quebec.

If you want to purchase a new boat, there really is no better place to go as this event features over 275 exhibitors, over 400 boats and all sorts of speakers and industry professionals.

www.salondubateau.com



First-Bike-Invented – Montreal Bicycle Show

Montreal Bicycle Show

Come mid-February most people are dreaming of a world without snow and ice, so for cycling enthusiasts, there is no better way to start planning out your spring/summer/fall cycling excursions than the Montreal Bicycle Show at Place Bonaventure February 13-15.

Featuring information and products relating to everything pertinent to professional and amateur cyclists, this expo features lots of bikes and gear, plus information on nutrition and health.

www.salonduvelo.com/montreal

Les Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois

February 19-28 marks the return of the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois, an annual festival that promotes the local film industry, its artists and industry professionals and their contributions to the international film scene.

www.rvcq.com/festival-32e

Hunting, Fishing and Camping Show

If you're looking to trick out your next hunting, fishing or camping trip, the best spot to see what's new in terms of gear for any of these outdoor adventures is Montreal's Hunting, Fishing and Camping Show at Place Bonaventure February 19-22.

An excellent place to start researching your next purchases of firearms, GPSs, fish finders, binoculars, decoys, tents, fishing poles or reels, camp stoves, sleeping bags and even hunting dogs. This event lets you get a good look at things that may give you that advantage out in the wild or make your next bush trip the best one ever.

salonexpertchassemontreal.ca

Montréal en Lumière

Montréal en Lumière is not only one of the biggest winter festivals in the world, attracting over 900,000 every year, but comes at a perfect time to beat the winter blahs, starting February 19 and running until March 1.

Now in its 16th year, this festival transforms Place des Festivals into a free, festive family-fun zone with braziers, shows, activities for children that celebrate winter's wonder and Montreal's party spirit.

This event also pairs Montreal chefs with international culinary masters for one of the most exclusive and incredible restaurant events of the year.

Also highlighting the cream of the crop from the arts world with music, circus arts, song, theatre and dance shows, its offers patrons 11 days of top-notch entertainment both indoors and out.

www.montrealenlumiere.com

New Musics Festival

Running February 26-March 7, the Montreal New Musics Festival has a mandate to promote contemporary music and its composers. This annual event features a concert series and an "homage series" that celebrates contemporary classics and exposes this genre of music to the youth. With all sorts of musical events happening, this year's theme will

National Outfitters Hunting & Fishing Expo

Montreal Motorcycle Show

explore "Surroundings and New Technologies."

www.festivalmnm.ca/en/2015/

Montreal Motorcycle Show

Whether you fancy Harley-Davidsons, Ducatis or Arctic Cats, if you are a fan of motorcycle culture, the Montreal Motorcycle Show – at Palais des Congrès February 27-March 1 – is a great event to check out what's new in this world.

While this expo highlights the best and the latest in two-wheeled technology, for those on the market for a new scooter, trike, ATV, side by side or any other kind of on-road or off-road vehicle for the city or the bush, this is the place for riding on toys for big girls and boys.

Showcasing products from companies like Harley-Davidson, Aprilia, Arctic Cat, BMW Motorrad, Can-Am BRP, Honda, Husaberg, Husqvarna, Canadian Kawasaki, Suzuki, Vespa and Victory, this event even has nights devoted to kids and women.

montrealmotorcycleshow.com

Nuit Blanche à Montréal

This major event held throughout Montreal has become such a smash hit that the trend has caught on in other cities. The Nuit Blanche à Montréal is an all-night ritual that keeps folks awake with amazing cultural events.

On February 28, participating venues across the city will open their doors overnight so that patrons can take part in their artistic celebrations. They include a wide variety of art galleries and museums as well as shows and cultural events. Happening in conjunction with the Montreal Highlights Festival, this will be the 12th edition of the increasingly popular event.

www.montrealenlumiere.com/nuit-blanche-en/default.aspx

Edgy Redux Festival

According to their website, Montreal's Edgy Redux Festival is a "fierce, feminist and considerably condensed reincarnation of the Edgy Women Festival." Now in its second edition, this undisciplined and unapologetic event features shows and performances that explore feminist art practices February 28-March 8.

www.edgywomen.ca/en

National Home Show

At Place Bonaventure March 6-15, the National Home Show is about renovation, decoration and landscaping. It's the perfect place to see the latest trends in any of these areas or talk to an expert about what can become your new home reality.

Featuring over 1,500 experts on homes and home products, this show is a great place to see what the

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latest technology is for green living and energy-saving products for your home, like new doors, windows or roofing materials. It showcases the latest colour and décor trends as well as all kinds of innovative ideas for the exterior of your home.

Whether you're a homeowner or in the market, looking for an industry professional or a home beautification service, this is the show for you.

www.salonnationalhabitation.com/en/home.snh

National Women's Show

For the gal looking to find out more about fashion, beauty and services geared directly to today's woman check out the Salon National de la Femme at Palais de Congrès March 13-15.

This event showcases one-stop shopping for everything from botox to new hair trends to what is hot for spring to spa getaways, all under one roof.

www.nationalwomenshow.com

St. Patrick's Day Parade

A sure-fire sign that spring is on our doorstep, Montreal's St. Patrick's Day Parade runs down St. Catherine Street in an explosion of green, white and orange as well as music, dancing and all-out fun on March 22.

Featuring floats from many Irish community organizations as well as major Montreal institutions, this is the ultimate event where everyone can be Irish for a day and enjoy being outside for the revelry.

www.montrealirishparade.com

Expo Manger Santé et Vivre Vert

All about eating well, living healthy and going as green as you can, Montreal's Expo Manger Santé et Vivre Vert is a great way to learn about the latest in health-food trends as well as find out more about new products hitting the market and how they can be prepared.

The perfect event for anyone who is looking to turn over a new leaf come spring, this event is happening at Palais de Congrès March 20-22 and it can be a real eye-opener for those looking to try new health foods as there are hundreds to sample.

www.expomangersante.com

Quebec's Major Fall Events

For those looking to celebrate autumn, here's a sampling of events happening throughout Quebec.

Festival de Chasse du Haut-St-Maurice

There is nothing more celebrated in Eeyou Istchee than the bounty of the land, and this fall hunting festival lets you show off your skills in the Haut-St-Maurice region.

The largest hunting festival in Quebec, this event in La Tuque features music and entertainment as well as a wine show and cuisine-tasting events, kids events, athletic competitions and hunting contests October 25-November 1.

www.festivaldechasse.ca

Festival du cinéma international en Abitibi-Témiscamingue

Abitibi-Témiscamingue's film fest adds a bright splash of colour and culture to Rouyn-Noranda October 25-31, with its cinematic delights from some 30-odd countries.

It's a chance to see hot documentaries, feature films, shorts and animated flicks in Quebec's north – many which are getting their North American debut.

www.festivalcinema.ca

Rendez-vous hockey senior

Running November 13-16, Thetford Mines' Rendez-vous hockey senior is Canada's largest intermediate-level amateur hockey tournament.

The ultimate opportunity to discover up-and-comers in the hockey world, it features four days of over 128 amateur teams that compete for $20,000 in prize money.

www.rdvhockeysenior.com

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Salon national du quad et des véhicules hors route

This event is focuses on ATVs, four wheelers and off-road motorcycles. Held November 14-16 in Saint-Hyacinthe, it gives you a close-up view of quad trials, a wide selection of ATVs,other side-by-side vehicles as well as gear.

www.fqcq.qc.ca

Canadian Museum of History's Christmas Market

If you happen to be in the Gatineau area November 27-30, the Canadian Museum of History's Christmas Market is a great family activity that features shopping for one-of-a-kind gifts and treasures, produced by over 50 local food producers and artisans.

Featuring traditional holiday songs performed by carollers in period costumes and family activities, this is a wonderfully warm and fuzzy experience guaranteed to get you in the mood for the holidays.

www.historymuseum.ca/

Challenge Casino de Charlevoix

Quebec's leading curling tournament and part of the World Curling Tour, the Challenge Casino de Charlevoix features over 80 teams from across Canada for four intense days of championship competition in Clermont November 27-30.

challengecasinodecharlevoix.com

Quebec City Lights Festival

Bringing dazzling light to an already beautiful city, Quebec's capital is getting a makeover for the entire month of December thanks to the Quebec City Lights Festival. A beacon of warmth and holiday spirit for one of the darkest months of the year, this event sets the tone for the city's many holiday activities.

festivaldeslumieresdequebec.com

Tremblant's 24h of Skiing & 24h Walk and Run

A relay challenge to raise money for children's charities that anyone can participate in, this annual Mont-Tremblant event happens December 5-7 and isn't just about athleticism but also partying. With loads of concerts, dancing, outdoor activities and fun, this small fest kicks off the ski season and keeps the party going on outside.

www.24htremblant.com

Mont-Tremblant Short Movies Festival

If the outdoor partying gets too chilly, the 4th edition of the Mont-Tremblant Short Movies Festival takes place December 5-7. A bilin-

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Lanaudière International Dog Sledding Race

gual event that offers dynamic short cinema, this festival aattracts entrants from all over the world.

www.tremblantfilmcourt.com

Tournoi provincial de hockey pee-wee

One of the province's largest pee-wee hockey tournaments happens January 12-18 in Jonquière and is a wonderful opportunity to see tomorrow's hockey stars shine.

www.tournoipeewee.com

Festival du film de Sept-Îles Ciné 7

Bringing together art, culture and a town that's inspiring to visit when the weather is frigid, the Festival du film de Sept-Îles Ciné 7 is a non-profit event that is put on in conjunction with local cinema companies January 16-26. Featuring a wide variety of new and repertory films, this event is in its 25th year.

www.cine7.ca

Lanaudière International Dog Sledding Race

The Lanaudière International Dog Sledding Race attracts over 120 competitors and 1,500 dogs from across North America to compete for major barking rights. Also featuring a wide variety of family-fun activities such as dog sledding rides, skating, exhibitions and live entertainment, this event takes place in the town of L'Épiphanie January 23-25.

www.ville.lepiphanie.qc.ca

Winterlude

Happening January 30-February 16, the Gatineau/Ottawa cold-weather celebration has been happening since 1979 and has become part of the fabric of winter life of this region.

Featuring the world's largest skating rink, out-of-this-world ice sculpture competitions and North America's largest snow playground, this family event celebrates winter in "capital" style.

www.pch.gc.ca/eng

Québec Winter Carnival

Boasting its 61st edition, the Québec Winter Carnival is Quebec City's top annual event and the biggest winter carnival in the world.

Kicking off January 30 and running until February 15, this year's event will be a celebration of Bonhomme's World and will be a celebration of the world's most popular snowman and his magical land. With this in mind, the entire Plains of Abraham will become a thematic winter wonderland that will feature all sorts of events, shows, parties and winter activities.

http://carnaval.qc.ca

Grand Gathering of Snowmobilers in Charlevoix

This Charlevoix spectacular is a celebration of snowmobile culture. Known as the "Le grand rassemblement des motoneigistes," this party and gathering has been occurring in the Charlevoix for the last 14 years and is a collaboration between the Casino de Charlevoix and the Fairmont le Manoir Richelieu, with activities happening outdoors and at both venues. The weekend of January 30-31 features DJ parties, an outdoor ice bar, live entertainment, prizes and a poker rally.

www.casinosduquebec.com/charlevoix/en/events

Winter World Masters Games

Running January 31-February 8, this masters competition in Quebec City brings out thousands to compete in over 40 sporting presentations in nine official sports that include alpine skiing, biathlon, cross-country skiing, curling, ice hockey, long-track skating, marathon skating, short-track skating, snowshoeing and triathlon.

Attracting athletes, professional athletes, former Olympians and anyone else who wants to compete, the only eligibility criteria for this event is to be over 30.

mastersgamesquebec2015.com

Québec Winter Carnival

Saguenay en Neige

Running February 5-15, this Loto-Québec-sponsored event brings a hefty helping of fun and excitement to the Saguenay. With over 250 spectacular snow sculptures that form an outdoor art museum, this event attracts over 1000 snow sculptors from Quebec and beyond. Plus it features live entertainment, fireworks, a wide variety of outdoor fun and activities for kids.

www.saguenayenneige.com

FIS Freestyle Ski World Cup

If you're a freestyle ski fan, Val St-Côme has a month-long competition that brings out some of the best aerial ski freestylers in the world to compete in one of winter's most incredible and death defying events. The event takes place February 7 in Val St-Côme.

http://freestyleski.com/fr/

International Pee-Wee Hockey Tournament

Running February 11-12 at Quebec City's Pepsi Coliseum, this is the biggest minor hockey tournament in the world. Teams from Canada, the United States and Europe compete in 11 days of hockey madness in what is also a major event for the hockey industry.

www.tournoipee-wee.qc.ca

Snowboard Jamboree & FIS Snowboard World Cup

Running February 19-22 at the Stoneham Mountain Resort near Quebec City, this event is the ultimate international destination for snowboarders and fans. This winter party and competition not only showcases snowboarding and its culture but also features pro and amateur competitions as well as fashion and music events.

www.snowjamboree.com/

La Fête d'hiver de Rouyn-Noranda

A fabulous celebration of family fun in the snow in Rouyn-Noranda February 20-22, this winter festival features a wide variety of competitions and children's activities.

It includes a national and a youth snow-sculpture competition, a boot hockey tournament, races of all kinds, tire-tubing, face painting and calèche rides.

www.lafetedhiver.com

Les Hivernades de Chicoutimi

The Saguenay region's biggest winter party of the year, Les Hivernades de Chicoutimi takes place February 28-March 7. Featuring a variety of activities and family fun, this event has dance, music, art expos, ATV activities and an incredible outdoor amusement area for kids with everything from inflatable games to mini-putt.

http://leshivernades.com

Festival d'hiver de Roberval

Running weekends from March 6-15, you can get your adrenaline pumping and engines running with Roberval's winter festival. Featuring motocross, ATV and snowmobile competitions as well as a Formula One Grand Prix snowmobiling on ice, a 4x4 pull, antique-car racing, snowcross and a pétanque tournament, this event is all about racing fun.

www.festivaldhiverderoberval.com

Festival Art'Danse de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue

Val-d'Or brings the dance world to northern Quebec March 11-15. Featuring workshops, master classes, a dance creation contest and a gala soirée, this inspiring event is all about creativity, skill, style and self-expression.

www.artdanse.ca

Tournoi provincial de hockey pee-wee

Picture of Speakers, Elders, Chief and CWEIA Board: Back: (left to right) CWEIA Elder Irene B House, Whapmagoostui Rep Rita S Masty, Chibougamau Friendship Centre Rep Leeanne Neeposh, Eastmain Rep Sheila Mark Stewart, Elder Robbie Matthew, Elder Joseph Neeposh, Youth Jamie Moses, Youth Jamie Jacob, Elder Nancy Danyluk, Elder Earl Danyluk, Wemindji Chief Dennis Georgekish Front: (left to right) CWEIA President E Virginia Wabano, Elder Irene B House, CWEIA Vice President Carmen Faries

Matthew Mukash's workshop was called a Path to Self Discovery.

Eeyou Healing Retreat 2014

photos by Harriet Trapper

Louisa Cookie-Brown held a workshop called Healing Through Sharing and based her teaching on the Teepee.

Picture of Facilitators & Organizing Team: back: (left to right)Irene B House, Sheila Mark Stewart, Mervin Cheechoo, Abraham Bearskin, Roger Orr, Matthew Mukash, Thomas Coon, Jadson Caldera. Middle: (left to right) E.Virginia Wabano, Carolanne Cheechoo, Wendy Hill, Pat Blacksmith, Linda L Shecapio, Rita S Masty

Front:(left to right) Linda Stewart, Wayne Rabbitskin, Louisa Cookie- Brown, Betty Albert, Christine Petawabano.

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Drawing the spirit

Artist Walter Kaheró:ton Scott brings comic art to Kahnawake kids

By Jesse Staniforth

Mohawk artist and cartoonist Walter Kaheró:ton Scott moves around a lot. For a while, he was living in Montreal's St-Henri neighbourhood, playing in punk bands. Last year he was in Vancouver before crossing the Pacific for an artist residency in Japan. Next month he'll be in New York City. He has plans to move to Toronto for work.

But right now he's back home in his brother's basement in Kahnawake, in the middle of teaching a six-week course at the Kanien'kehá:ka Onkwawén:na Raotitióhkwa Language and Cultural Centre, where he passes on his cartooning skills to the youth of the community.

"I wanted to have a place where kids could go and feel safe being who they are and having the interests that they do," he told the Nation.

When Scott was younger, he frequented a Kahnawake drop-in centre where youths were taught to make movies. He said it was instrumental in teaching him to have enough faith in himself to try new projects and express himself.

"In our community if you have a place you can go and meet other people like you – and really feel like your point-of-view is valid – it's something you carry with you, and it can shape your confidence and the way that you represent yourself in the rest of your life," he said.

Today, Scott is best known for his underground comic-book Wendy, a hugely successful and widely loved parody of Montreal's artistic community that has gained him a strong following across the country and around the world. Scott knows the art community well: after high school in Lachine and CEGEP in Montreal, he studied Fine Arts at Concordia University – one of the places Wendy pokes the most fun at. But part of what makes Wendy so funny is that the humour is tempered with the affection of making fun of a place he feels he belongs.

photo by Walter Kaheró:ton Scott

Poking fun at places that felt like home didn't always come easily to Scott. Growing up, he was shy and bookish, far more interested in reading than in playing lacrosse. That meant he didn't always feel like he belonged on his rez.

"I learned that if I wanted to survive, I had to seek out the communities I wanted to be in," he said. "I realized that I can be in every community a little bit if I want – I have the choice."

photo by Kaniehtiio Horn

But having lived away from Kahnawake and experienced the life of an artist and a musician, Scott said he no longer feels he has to be one thing or another. He doesn't believe that his passions cancel one another out.

v he stressed. "You can be in any community you choose at the same time. We make our own mark on contemporary life – in my experience, there's a Mohawk way to do everything."

If they're nurtured, individual interests make people stronger and more interesting and feed the health of the community at large, he said.

"If you're a Mohawk from Kahnawake and you're interested in comics or something not so common, so long as it feeds your spirit and makes you happy, that makes you a better person, and that makes you a better person in your community. The more you explore what your interests are, and are open to different kinds of ideas, the more it solidifies who you are and makes you happier and stronger."

These are values that Scott is proud to share with the young people in his course, who range in age from 11 to 21. The participants are, he said, impressive: "They do and say things that make me think differently. I have a lot to learn from them."

It isn't easy growing up with a set of nerdy interests that the rest of society – both Native and settler society – teases you about. But Scott is intent to transmit to his students the power of using comics to reflect real experience. He recently gave them a chapter from Iranian-French graphic novelist Marjane Satrapi's masterpiece Persepolis, about growing up in Iran during the Islamic revolution. In one chapter, Satrapi recalls as a teenage girl, her parents smuggled her punk and heavy metal cassettes from outside Iran, and she walked around the streets wearing a jean jacket upon which she'd written "Punk's Not Dead." It doesn't take long before she received vicious harassment from her radical Muslim neighbours for not wearing the veil.

Anywhere you grow up, Scott noted, people feel suspicious of and hostile to kids who like different or nerdy stuff, and Satrapi's portrait of an Iranian girl experiencing that same feeling of being an outcast shows how hard it is to be a shy, artistic kid the world over.

"For me, it's an allegory for how I felt in Kahnawake – there's a strong tradition of how you're supposed to behave, and if you have unique interests, people don't really understand what art and music can do for you. I Xeroxed that chapter specifically for [the students], so I

"ART AND MUSIC OPEN YOU UP TO THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE MULTITUDES."

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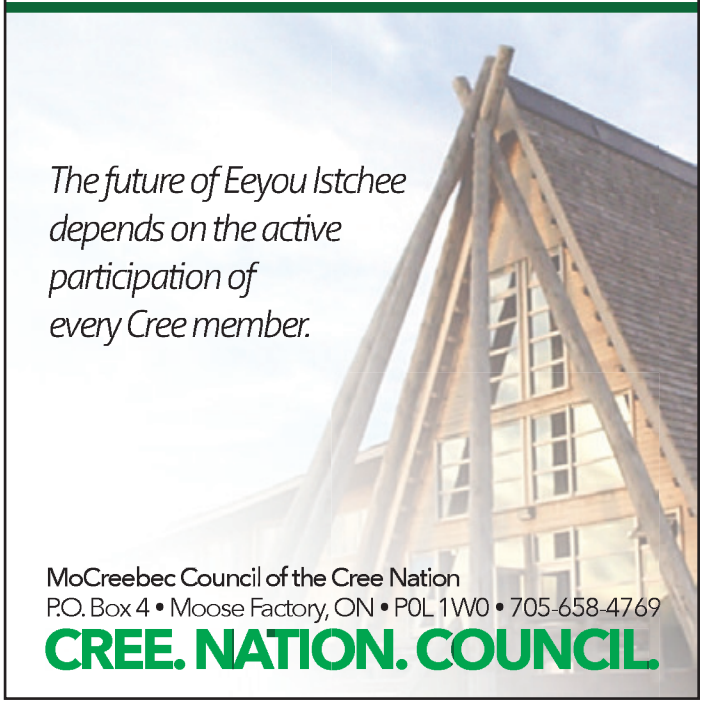

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can talk to them about whether they have feelings like that."

Those feelings, Scott underlined, are related to an internalized colonialism, inspiring some to adhere to limited ideas of acceptable behaviour that have nothing to do with Mohawk and Haudenosaunee tradition.

"I want [students] to know that if they're feeling different in Kahnawake for having interests outside of the norm, this kind of xenophobia is everywhere in the world. There are other cultures where that fear is what stops people from expressing themselves – I thought it would make them feel less alone."

Reflecting on his own adolescence with a non-traditional set of interests for a kid on the rez, he sees a lot of himself in his students and his heart goes out to them – and the parents who have left their kids under his instruction.

"When you're a parent and you have a child who's strange and intelligent and creative, it must be really scary," he said. "Maybe you don't know what to do – you want your child to succeed, but you don't know the first thing about how to support someone like that, if you're not an artist yourself."

The cartooning course he teaches is expansive: it covers all the basics, like designing a character, exploring different visual ways of moving the action forward, and creating emotion and distance and time. But the course also extends into an extremely practical set of instructions about making the comics into real books that participants can Xerox and unleash into the world. Scott teaches a class on how to put a book together without a computer, using glue and scissors and staples and formatting the original for the photocopier. And there's another class on how to distribute comics, using online portals like Etsy or Tumblr to give a comic a worldwide audience.

"It's a starter kit for them to get going if this is something they want to do," he said. "Here are the basic tools: go ahead and do what thou wilt!"

Scott underlined that finding a way to get your comics out into the public is a critically important step for a developing creative person.

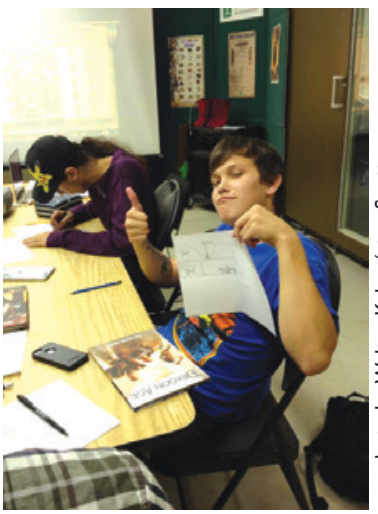


photo by Walter Kaheró:ton Scott

"It helps to develop your confidence if you can show people and get feedback," Scott said. "It also helps to connect you to communities of other people who are doing the same thing, because then they hear about your work and you can make friends that way. That's what I did when I was in high school."

Long past his own graduation, Scott has noticed that the Canadian art world is full of people like him: Native kids who grew up trying to balance their identities between their ancestries and their interests. Wendy features a central recurring character like that –Winonuk (Winona), Wendy's best friend, who lives the glamorous (and ridiculous) life of art openings, conferences and parties, but also returns home to her mom's house on the rez, hooks up with a high-school boyfriend, and gets side-eyed in the local bar by the mean girls she went to high school with.

"I'm trying to develop a philosophy where [the different parts of your life] all melt into one another," said Scott. "When I introduced the Native character of Winona with no warning, [it was because] people are used to there being a context for these kinds of stories to appear. Either it's on APTN, or it's starring Adam Beach. But my experience was that I was a Native person [who didn't look stereotypically Native], taken out of my community and placed in this environment. I realized that I'm just a part of the world. That's why I wanted Winona to plop down into the story."

After all, he underlined, Canada's contemporary art scene is loaded with Indigenous people who are central to its functioning.

"It's not something that you talk about, necessarily, but Indigenous people in Canada are sitting on artist-run-centre boards, are making work not necessarily about Indigenous identity – they're there! They're part of the narrative and the framework of contemporary art. That's why I made Winona – I thought it'd be funny to throw her in there, and people would just have to deal with it. Her being Native is a part of the story, but it's not the whole story. That reflected how I felt about my own life."

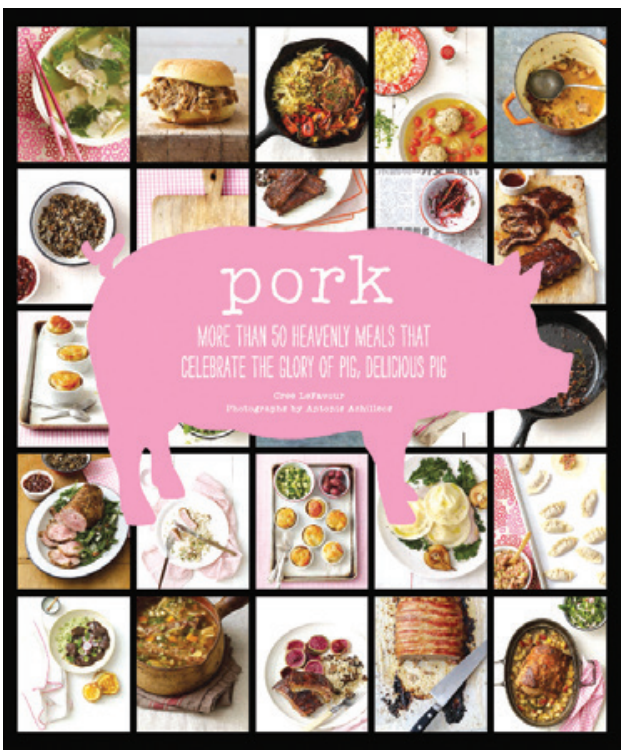
Straddling the worlds of art and the rez is something Scott hopes to continue, even though he plans to move to Toronto, where opportunities for artists to get paid are better. Leaving Kahnawake will be difficult, however, especially after the connections he's developed with his students.

"They're intelligent, awesome, creative people living in Kahnawake. If it's good enough for them, it's good enough for me."

"Pig, delicious pig"

The versatile meat that's a surefire crowd pleaser

By Amy German



Ribs, bacon, pork roast and chops have become staple comfort foods in many cultures and all of these are celebrated in Cree LeFavour's latest cookbook, *Pork*.

This book is exactly what the subtitle says it is – "more than 50 heavenly meals that celebrate the glory of pig, delicious pig." And what a celebration it is! Presenting recipes that feature pork as the centerpiece in four different culturally based sections – American, Bistro (European), Chinese and Japanese, and South and Southeast Asian – this cookbook is a fabulous education in preparation and flavour sensations.

With various mouth-watering recipes for ribs, meatloaf wrapped in bacon, pork-fried rice, pork dumplings, slow-cooked pork belly, pulled pork and pork tacos among many others, LeFavour takes pork in many different directions and presents menus that are unfussy and enticing. If looking for new ways to prepare pork for your dinner table, let LeFavour guide through a meat-filled extravaganza.

For those unfamiliar with the various cuts of pork available in a supermarket or how to maximize their flavour, LeFavour has a section that helps novice cooks gain confidence in the kitchen.

Pork is a fun read and a great way to expand your and your family's palates. Enjoy this excerpt featuring recipes for three excellently paired delights.

BBQ Ribs with Spicy Mop, Pickled Onion Slaw and Deviled Eggs with Debris

Serves 4

People get worked up over how to cook ribs, and for good reason. Everyone seems to have a secret to "the best" rub, mop or sauce. I don't really buy into the voodoo of it all. Besides, I don't like my ribs overwhelmed by sauce or spice. Happy, healthy pigs produce delicious ribs if the meat is cooked long, slow and smoky. Whatever you do or don't put on them, the fatty, crispy deliciousness of gnawing tender meat off a bone can't be denied.

The name of the sauce comes, obviously enough, from the doll-size janitor mops that pit masters use to coat their meat. A mop helps to keep the meat moist while giving it a little extra flavour over the course of its long, slow cooking. Get a real string mop to apply this sauce – they're much more efficient than the more common ilicone type, and cute to boot. You will need 5 handfuls hardwood chips, soaked for at least 30 minutes in water and drained, for smoking the ribs.

BBQ Ribs with Spicy Mop

4-5 lbs (1.8-2.3 kg) St-Louis-cut ribs or spareribs (2 or 3 slabs), silverskin removed

Removing the Silverskin from a Tenderloin and Ribs

Be sure to remove the pesky membrane, called the silverskin, that coats the tenderloin and covers the underside of ribs. It prevents the rub or marinade from penetrating the meat. Shiny, thin and difficult to see, it's usually there, whether it's visible to you or not. Try to get under it with your fingers or a paring knife and then use

your hands to pull at it. The fresher the ribs, the easier it will be to remove, often tearing off in one big, gratifying pull. If you're having difficulty or you're preparing slab upon slab of ribs at once and your fingers are getting numb, use a paper towel to grip the thin, slippery nuisance.

- 1 tsp kosher salt
- Black pepper
- About 1 tbsp of organic high-heat oil

Spicy Mop

- ¼ cup (60 ml) Worcestershire sauce
- ¼ cup (50 g) brown sugar (dark or light)
- 1 cup (240 ml) cider vinegar
- 2 tbsp peanut or vegetable oil
- 2 tbsp hot sauce
- 1 tbsp smoked paprika
- Flaky salt (optional)
- Hot sauce for serving

Build a medium fire in a charcoal or wood grill or heat a gas grill to medium. If you're using charcoal or wood, you want hot embers, not flames. (If you don't have a grill large enough to place the meat away from the heat source, make a small fire or set the grill to its lowest setting.) Use a clean, well-cured grate. Place a handful of wood chips on the fire. Repeat every hour, adding charcoal or wood and wood chips to maintain the smoke and a steady temperature. Add fuel more frequently if the temperature dips to below 200°F (95°C). It should hover between 200°F and 350°F (95°C and 180°C).

Rinse the ribs if they've been in a vacuum pack. Either way, dry them and then rub all over with the kosher salt and a sprinkling of black pepper. Rub on a light gloss of oil.

Place the ribs a few inches/centimetres away from the heat source if possible. Cover the grill, and smoke for 3 to 3 ½ hours.

When the ribs are on the grill, make the Spicy Mop: Whisk together the Worcestershire, brown sugar, cider vinegar, peanut oil, hot sauce and smoked paprika in a small saucepan and set over medium heat until the liquid comes to a boil. Pouring off ¾ cup (180 ml) into a separate container, cover and reserve to season the pork once it's cooked. Keep the remaining mop hot inside the covered grill as you use it to coat the meat during cooking. This will concentrate it and fuse the flavours, while killing off any bacteria you may introduce from the uncooked meat. (If the mop reduces too far, add a splash of your open beer – or wine, or water – to the pot.)

Every hour mop the ribs, turn the meat over, and mop the side now facing up. The ribs are done when you can slip a bone out of the rack and it comes out nearly clean. Taste the ribs for salt, and if they could use a little more, sprinkle with flaky salt. Serve with extra mop and more hot sauce on the side.

Pickled Onion Slaw

As you may have noticed, I don't do raw onions. Shallots, yes; onions, no. This is as close as I get, but I do throw these pickled onions around my recipes the way I throw around black pepper. They're versatile and provide a reliable hit of acidity and spice along with a subtle hint of mustard.

- 1 small head of red or green cabbage (or a combination), cored and shredded or chopped
- 1 cup (170 g) pickled onions, chopped, plus ¾ cup (180 ml) of the pickled onion brine

Pickled Onions

The coriander seed is crucial to this bright, versatile condiment. See if you don't agree – eggs, steak, chicken and, most of all, pork take to it gleefully.

- 1 large onion, preferably Vidalia, very thinly sliced
- ½ cup (120 ml) cider vinegar
- ½ cup (120 ml) water
- 1 tbsp coriander seed, coarsely crushed
- ¼ tsp ground turmeric

Place the onion in an extra-large cereal bowl. Combine the vinegar, water, coriander seed and turmeric in a small saucepan set over high heat and bring to a boil. Remove from the heat and pour over the onion. Allow the onion to

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sit for 1 hour at room temperature. Store, refrigerated, for up to 10 days.

- 2 tbsp of honey
- ¼ cup (60 ml) organic refined olive oil
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- Black pepper
- Flaky salt (optional)

Combine the cabbage and pickled onions in a mixing bowl. In a small saucepan, combine the brine, honey, olive oil, kosher salt and plenty of black pepper. Heat just until the honey dissolves. Allow to cool briefly before mixing into the cabbage. Before serving, dress the slaw (and no sooner, to avoid soggy, watered-down slaw) and taste, adding a pinch of flaky salt (or a little more brine), as you like.

Deviled Eggs with Debris

If you ever crave some truly outstanding barbecued beef brisket, hit up Mighty Quinn's at the Stockton Market in Stockton, New Jersey. On the menu alongside the best brisket I've ever tasted, they offer Deviled Eggs with Debris, which, as they explained to me, means deviled eggs sprinkled with bits of crispy exterior from barbecued pork. I think these babies deserve a place in the vernacular, so here's my version and my homage to the Mighty Quinn. It's best to make deviled eggs just before serving, as they cannot be left at room temperature, and when refrigerated, they tend to sweat as they warm up. As lovely as day-old eggs are, peeling very fresh eggs that have been hard-boiled is tedious work; eggs that are a week old or more will peel more easily.

- 3 dozen eggs
- 2 cups (480 ml) mayonnaise
- 1 tbsp dry mustard
- ¼ tsp cayenne pepper
- ¼ cup (10 g) snipped fresh chives
- Paprika for sprinkling
- ½ cup (120 ml) packed chopped pork debris (the meat from one whole rib or the crispy exterior from cooked shoulder or belly)
- Flaky salt and black pepper for finishing

Bring a large pot of water to a boil over high heat. Lower the eggs into the water gently and boil for 12 minutes. Drain and run cold water over the cooked eggs until they are cool, 2 to 3 minutes. After cooling the eggs in cold water, leave them in the pot as you work, knocking them against the side of the pot before you begin to peel each one. This helps the shells come away more easily.

Halve the white lengthwise, split the egg apart, remove the yolk, and place the two halves of cooked white on a large platter or tray. As you work, collect the yolks in the bowl of a stand mixer (or in a mixing bowl if you have a hand mixer). Add the mayonnaise, dry mustard and cayenne to the bowl with the yolks. Using the paddle attachment, beat the yolks for 2 to 3 minutes or until very smooth and fluffy.

Stuff the yolk mixture into a pastry bag fitted with a wide tip (decorative is fine, but a fine tip will quickly clog). Fill the whites with the yolk mixture, using it all. Sprinkle the deviled eggs with chives, a tiny pinch of paprika, a bit of the debris, and a pinch of flaky salt. Finish with black pepper and serve.

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In accordance with section 206.16 of the Act respecting School Elections, the Chief Electoral Officer wishes to inform the public that the following candidates* have been authorized for the school elections of November 2, 2014.

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Central Québec School Board	BURKE, Stephen	2014-09-23
Baie-James School Board	AMYOT, Suzan	2014-09-25
	BOLDUC, Valérie	2014-09-24
	DESGAGNÉS, Claudine	2014-09-26
	DUFOUR, Christine	2014-09-26
	LALANCETTE, Rémy	2014-09-23
	LAPORTE JOLY, Lyne	2014-09-23
	RACICOT, Anik	2014-09-28
	TESSIER BUREAU, France	2014-09-25
	TOUPIN, Elyse	2014-09-28
	VEILLETTE, Jessica	2014-09-26

* A candidate includes any person who subsequently becomes a candidate or has indicated his intention to become a candidate.

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On the right track

Métis 11-year-old steers for auto-racing glory

By Joel Barde

The last race of Xavier Dorsnie's season saw some of the most challenging conditions he has raced in. The rain was torrential, obscuring the view of the tight, Formula-1-inspired turns of the Mont-Tremblant karting circuit.

The course was slippery, "like a sheet of ice," said the 11-year-old.

"I just focused on the yellow lines on the edge of the track," said Dorsnie, who was able to pull ahead early, build his lead and beat the closest competitor by a full 10 seconds.

With the victory, Dorsnie swept the weekend's races, having dramatically won an earlier race by a fraction of a second the day before. The wins have capped of an impressive inaugural year on the Canadian Karting Championship Circuit in which Dorsnie finished second amongst Quebec competitors.

Like his mother, Dorsnie traces his heritage to the Métis nation, making him an anomaly in a sport dominated by white, affluent families.

And given that most people he's racing against are three to four years older, many people are predicting that Dorsnie may have a long, illustrious carrier in the auto racing.

"I believe that Xavier has the potential to become one of the best drivers in North America – if not the world," said Ben Cooper, a three-time world karting champion who is Dorsnie's coach.

"He just loves to drive. And he stays relaxed and poised behind the wheel. And that's not something you can teach."

Xavier Dorsnie with his first career win - Sept 20, 2014

According to Dorsnie's mother, Cynthia Hansen, he's always been passionate about cars.

"Xavier has loved cars from before he could walk. That's never wavered. He's always said he wanted to be a race-car driver," she said. "Some children watch cartoons. Xavier watched races."

Dorsnie also played racing video games. In fact, the origins of

his racing can be traced back to F1-2010, a video game that allows players to play as professional drivers. He began playing the game at the age of nine.

"One day Xavier came up the stairs and said, 'I want to be a race-car driver, and I want to start right away,'" recalled Hansen.

He'd read the biographies, realized many professionals began their career racing on karting circuits at his age, and decided on his path.

Soon after the family – Dorsnie is an only child – travelled to Mont-Tremblant's Jim Russell Karting Academy, where they were introduced to the sport.

It is, Hansen conceded, an alien environment. Neither she nor her husband were particularly interested in racing. And as far as she knows, Dorsnie is the only First Nations competitor racing in his division.

Racing in Quebec is still largely the preserve of the elite, with some families investing tens of thousands of dollars in teams and high-end equipment.

But Dorsnie races in a division called Briggs & Stratton Junior, which can be thought of as the NASCAR of the karting world. Everyone has the same kart and engine – basically a souped-up go-kart – and any alterations are strictly prohibited.

Racing costs between $150-$200 a weekend in registration fees. But the money adds up in other ways. In fact, Hansen estimates that the family spent between $10,000 and $14,000 this year.

They save all year to finance the racing, skipping vacations. But Hansen says it's all worth it.

"If it were something that just Xavier and his dad shared – or just me and Xavier shared – then that would be different. But these trips really bring us closer as a family. We're a team. I'm the organizer – booking hotels and making food. Dad is the mechanic. And the kid drives."

But racing comes with its fair share of risk, especially given the fact that Dorsnie darts around hairpin corners, banked turns and straightaways at speeds between 70-to-140 km/h.

Dorsnie said crashes don't happen often. But when they do, they're "spectacular."

This year they witnessed two major crashes, one of which left a young driver in a coma.

Hansen said that the danger is something that the family acknowledges and takes seriously. But perhaps counterintuitively, she said watching Dorsnie race actually allays her fears.

"I'm less nervous when I see him on the track, because his body language is so calm and relaxed. He looks like he's out for a Sunday drive. I find that that calms me down, to know he's so in tune with what he's doing."

For Dorsnie, the goal is simple: build a life in racing. His eventual goal, he said, is to race in European touring circuits, races that take place on open roads over long distances.

He likes other sports – especially ball hockey (he is a goaltender) – and is a good student. But racing remains his greatest passion.

He's a precocious and articulate kid who steers away from sports clichés, and gives the thoughtful responses reporters dream about. But that's not to say that he lacks swagger.

When asked if he is a friend to his racing competitors, Dorsnie pauses for a moment, considering his response.

"I'll say hello if I see them off track. But I'd say I'm more friends with people in other divisions – it's competitive out there."

To support Dorsnie's racing career, you can donate at www.gofundme.com/xavier-dorsnie

Life just got better for the children of Attawapiskat

by Xavier Kataquapit

Congratulations to everyone in Attawapiskat who fought so hard over many years to lobby for the construction of a new public school. This year the children started their school session in a brand-new, contamination-free school.

I was saddened to see the demolition of the once-proud J.R. Nakogee School and to witness the unfolding of the tragic story of my old elementary school. I recall the excitement in Attawapiskat over the opening of this new school in 1976. A few years after the doors opened, I attended class. It was great to be in a newer building. We children felt as if we had left the community to travel to some modern southern place. Back then, we were very happy to have running water in our school as few homes in the Attawapiskat had indoor plumbing. We had to fetch water from the river near the rapids and all of us had to use outhouses.

Just imagine what it was like for all of us children to venture out every day to a new school with all the modern conveniences. We were amazed that a short walk across town could take us to the future and a place where we learned English to add to our Cree language.

Sadly, our infatuation with our new school did not last long. A giant oil spill amounting to thousands of gallons soaked the ground surrounding our beloved school. Imagine if this had happened in a school in a non-Native in Canada. That school would have been shut down right away. However, although the people of Attawapiskat complained about the effect of the oil spill on the children there was no resolution from the federal government to do something to correct this problem. I went on to graduate several years later from this school as did so many other boys and girls. I did not know until later that I had the unique experience of graduating from a school that sat on top of one of the largest oil spills in the history of Ontario.

It wasn't until the 1990s that the government began to take active notice of what had happened and that was only due to the fight the community organized to deal with the oil spill. The history of my tragic school came to a head in 2000 when it was finally shut down due to the contamination. Children had been attending the contaminated school for many years and many were showing signs of illness.

The temporary solution provided by the federal government was to close the school and put in place portable buildings to serve the students. There were many problems with this arrangement mainly due to the less-than-perfect construction of these buildings to deal with freezing temperatures over long hard winters. It also meant the young children had to walk from building to building in very bad weather. Imagine how difficult it was for these young children to deal with portables for 14 years while the federal government thought about the problem and a solution. I don't think this would have been tolerated in a non-Native community in other parts of Canada.

Despite all the broken promises of a new school over a 14-year period, Attawapiskat was provided a ray of hope in the personality of Shannen Koostachin, a bright and vocal young girl who was brave enough to speak up for her fellow students in the fight for a new school. She inspired others in our home community and in the end managed to achieve a real promise from the government that a new school would be constructed. Sadly, we are still grieving her tragic death in 2010 on a highway in northern Ontario while travelling to continue her education. After so many years of being ignored by the government Shannen kept everyone's hope alive that our community would win the fight for a new school for the children of Attawapiskat.

Thanks to the persistence of Shannen, the chiefs, council members, teachers, parents and students, the government had to deal with the issue. Thanks is also in order to Timmins-James Bay MP Charlie Angus, who worked tirelessly lobbying for the new school and who introduced a motion adopted by the House of Commons that is referred to as Shannen's Dream. Thanks also should go out to the federal government and in particular John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, for finally moving ahead and constructing the new school.

Life just got a lot better for a whole bunch of children in Attawapiskat.

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